

SOTHEBY & CO.


Three Jewels

to be sold by auction

THURSDAY, JULY 1st, 1937

at 2.30 p.m. precisely

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
The Metropolitan Museum of Art

<https://archive.org/details/blackpearlneckla00soth>

MAR 1 1938
Sales.

CATALOGUE
OF
THE CELEBRATED
BLACK PEARL NECKLACE
AND
A SINGLE BLACK PEARL OF UNRIVALLED
SIZE AND QUALITY

THE PROPERTY OF **ANNIE, VISCOUNTESS COWDRAY**, DECEASED
[SOLD BY ORDER OF THE RIGHT HON. VISCOUNT COWDRAY]

ALSO OF
A SUPERB
DIAMOND NECKLACE

FORMERLY THE PROPERTY OF
MARIE ANTOINETTE, QUEEN OF FRANCE
AND NOW SOLD BY ORDER OF THE PRESENT JOINT OWNERS
HER IMPERIAL AND ROYAL HIGHNESS,
ARCHDUCHESS BLANCA OF AUSTRIA
AND
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS BEATRIX, PRINCESS MASSIMO
BOTH NÉES PRINCESSES OF BOURBON Y BOURBON

WHICH WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION

BY MESSRS

SOTHEBY & CO.

G. D. HOBSON, M.V.O.

F. W. WARRE, O.B.E., M.C.
C. V. PILKINGTON.

C. G. DES GRAZ

Auctioneers of Literary Property & Works illustrative of the Fine Arts.

AT THEIR LARGE GALLERIES, 34 & 35 NEW BOND STREET, W.(1)

ON THURSDAY, 1ST JULY, 1937

AT 2.30 P.M. PRECISELY

ON VIEW AT LEAST TWO DAYS PREVIOUS.

CATALOGUES MAY BE HAD

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE (2 PLATES)

CONDITIONS OF SALE

- I. The highest bidder to be the buyer. If any dispute arise the Auctioneer shall have absolute discretion to settle it ; and to put any disputed lot up again.
- II. No person to advance less than 1s. ; above five pounds 5s., and so on in proportion.
- III. All lots are put up for sale subject (a) to any reserve price imposed by the seller and (b) to the right of the seller to bid either personally or else by any one person who may be the Auctioneer.
- IV. The purchasers to give in their names and places of abode, and if required, to pay down 10s. in the pound or more, in part payment of the purchase money ; in default of which the lot or lots purchased may be immediately put up again and re-sold.
- V. All lots are sold as shown with all faults, imperfections, and errors of description. Messrs. Sotheby & Co. act as agents ; they have full discretion to refuse any bidding or to withdraw any lot or lots from the sale without in either case giving any reason ; they are not responsible for errors of description or for genuineness or authenticity of any lot or for any fault or defect in it, and make no warranty whatever.
- VI. The lots to be taken away at the buyer's risk and expense, immediately after the conclusion of the sale ; in default of which Messrs. Sotheby & Co. will not hold themselves responsible if the same are lost, stolen, damaged or otherwise destroyed, but they will be left at the sole risk of the purchaser, and subject to a charge for warehousing. If, at the expiration of Two Days after the conclusion of the sale, the lots are not cleared or paid for, they may then be sold immediately, either publicly or by private treaty, without any notice being given to the defaulter.
- VII. Upon failure of the buyer to comply with any of the above conditions, the money deposited in part-payment shall be forfeited ; and the defaulter at this sale shall make good any loss arising from the re-sale, together with the charges and expenses in respect of both sales.

To prevent confusion no purchases can be claimed or removed during the sale.

Messrs. SOTHEBY & Co.

are prepared to execute bids, and in addition to advise intending purchasers as far as possible, if requested by them to do so, without making any charge for either service. Lots will be procured as cheaply as is permitted by other bids or reserves, if any.

34 and 35, New Bond Street, London, W.1.

Telegraphic Address :

" Abinitio, Wesdo, London."

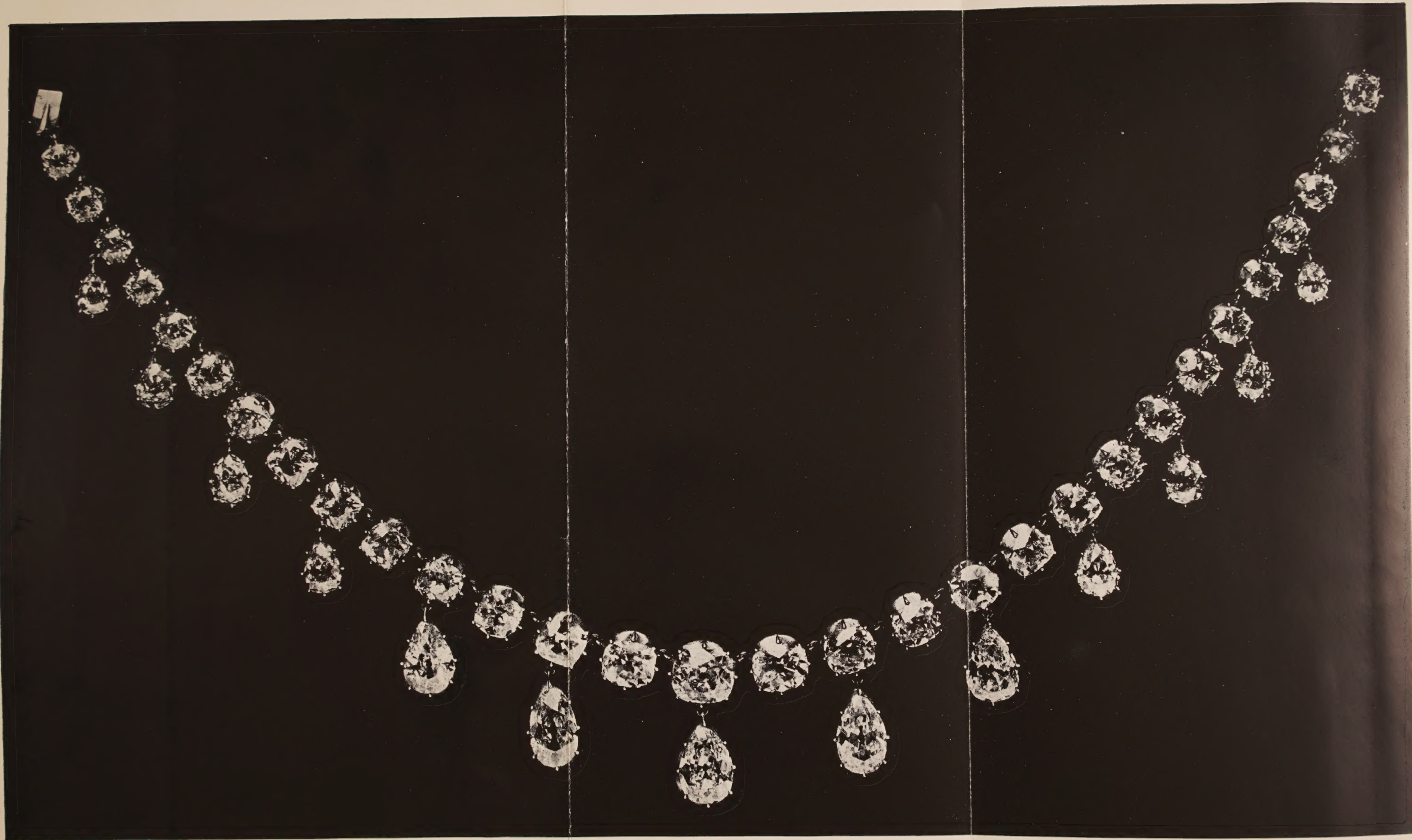
A.B.C. Code, 5th Edition.

Telephone : (3 lines)

Mayfair 6682, 6683, 6684.

In sending Commissions this Catalogue may be referred to as " TREE."

COMMISSIONS SENT BY TELEPHONE ARE ACCEPTED ONLY AT THE SENDER'S RISK AND MUST BE CONFIRMED BY LETTER OR TELEGRAM.



LOT A
(ACTUAL SIZE.)

CATALOGUE
OF
THREE JEWELS
OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE

DAY OF SALE:
Thursday, July 1st, 1937

Lot A

FORMERLY THE PROPERTY OF
MARIE ANTOINETTE, QUEEN OF FRANCE
SOLD BY ORDER OF THE PRESENT JOINT OWNERS
H.I. AND R.H. ARCHDUCHESS BLANCA OF AUSTRIA
AND
H.R.H. BEATRIX, PRINCESS MASSIMO

A SUPERB DIAMOND NECKLET IN THE FORM
OF A RIVIERE OF TWENTY-NINE STONES AND A SINGLE
STONE SNAP, EXQUISITELY GRADUATED, AND THIRTEEN PEAR-
SHAPED STONES PENDANT FROM ALTERNATE COLLETS :
IN ALL THERE ARE 43 STONES

THE STONES IN THE RIVIERE ARE MOSTLY SQUARE CUT,
EXCELLENT QUALITY AND VERY BRILLIANT, AND THE PEAR-
SHAPED STONES ARE OF EQUAL BRILLIANCE—A VERY UNUSUAL
FEATURE IN STONES OF THIS SHAPE AND SIZE

*in a red morocco case, with the arms and initials of Marie
Antoinette*

The necklace is accompanied by—

1. A certificate of origin, signed and sealed by H.I.&R.H. ARCHDUCHESS BLANCA OF AUSTRIA before the British Vice-Consul at Vienna, tracing the descent of the necklace, as shown in the pedigree given below. With this certificate are a photograph of the necklace, and a copy of a portion of the will, executed April 19th, 1884, of the Comtesse de Chambord, authenticated by the Director of the State Archives of Vienna. From this we take the following extract :

Je lègue et donne encore à ma nièce Marguerite, Duchesse de Madrid, filleule de mon bien-aimé mari (the Comte de Chambord, Henri V of France according to the legitimists), et de ma tante la Comtesse de Marnes (the title assumed by the Duchesse d'Angoulême, daughter of Queen Marie Antoinette, after the Bourbons had been driven from France in 1830) le grand collier en très gros diamants . . . venant de la Reine Marie Antoinette, et que ma tante la Reine Marie Thérèse, Comtesse de Marnes, m'a légué en testament en toute propriété.

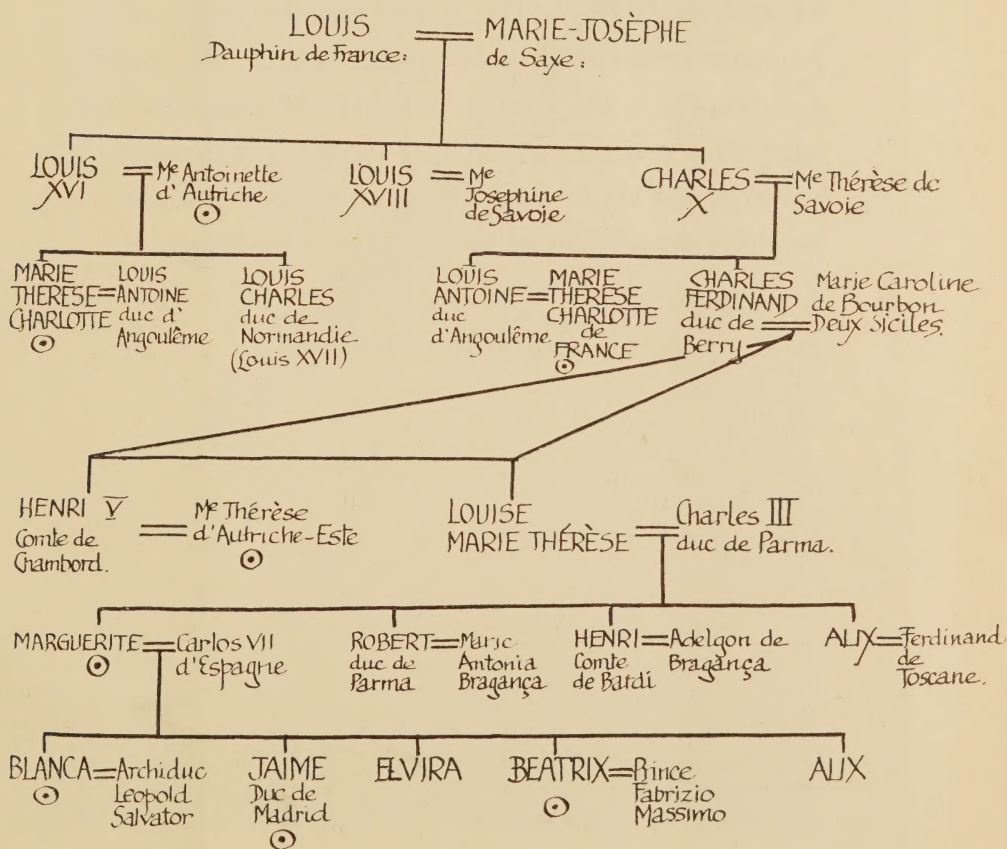
Fait et écrit tout de ma main à Goritz le dix-neuf Avril mil huit cent quatre vingt quatre (April 19, 1884).

MARIE THÉRÈSE D'AUTRICHE-ESTE COMTESSE DE CHAMBORD.

2. An affidavit, engrossed and illuminated on vellum, signed by T.R.H. the Duchess of San-Jaime, Margarita, Archduchess of Austria, and the Countess of Bardi, authenticating the necklace.

3. A genealogical tree, on vellum, showing the descent of the necklace from Marie-Antoinette, with the arms of the various owners and many of their relatives, emblazoned in the proper heraldic colours. A simplified genealogy is given herewith, the successive owners of the necklace being indicated by a small circle.

(See ILLUSTRATION)



THE PROPERTY OF
ANNIE, VISCOUNTESS COWDRAY, DECEASED
(SOLD BY ORDER OF THE RT. HON. VISCOUNT COWDRAY)

Lot B

A MAGNIFICENT NECKLET OF ORIENTAL BLACK PEARLS WITH A DIAMOND SNAP, THE NECKLET CONSISTS OF FORTY-THREE PEARLS, WEIGHING APPROXIMATELY 882 GRAINS, GRADUATING FROM 7-GRAIN ENDS TO A CENTRE OF ABOUT 42 GRAINS AND IS EXCEPTIONALLY BRILLIANT AND LUSTROUS : THERE IS PROBABLY NO FINER COLLECTION OF SUCH PEARLS IN EXISTENCE

(See ILLUSTRATION)



LOT C

LOT B

(ACTUAL SIZE.)

Lot C

A WONDERFUL BLACK PEARL, PERFECTLY SPHERICAL IN SHAPE, WEIGHING 105.6 GRAINS, SUSPENDED ON A SMALL CHAIN, SET WITH DIAMONDS, AS A PENDANT : THE PEARL IS OF UNIFORM BLACKNESS AND EXCEPTIONALLY LUSTROUS AND PERFECT

Laboratory certificate as to genuineness is shown with lots B and C.

(See ILLUSTRATION)

LONDON:
PRINTED BY KITCHEN & BARRATT, LTD.,
PARK ROYAL ROAD, N.W.10

SOTHEBY & Co.'s

SALE OF

THREE JEWELS
OF THE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE

1st July, 1937

PRICES AND BUYERS' NAMES

LOT A

Eric Wylde for His Highness
the Maharaj Dhiraj of Darbhanga ... £15,000 0 0

LOT B

Withdrawn £7,500 0 0

LOT C

Withdrawn £3,400 0 0

M. M. A.
LIBRARY
RECEIVED

JUL 19 1937

